



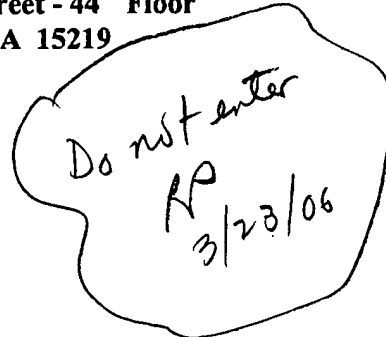
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: : Examiner: R.J. Palabrica  
MARK P. GOLDENFIELD et al. : Art Unit: 3663  
Serial No. 10/657,025 : Entitled:  
Filed: September 5, 2003 : NUCLEAR REACTOR  
Atty Docket: ARF 2002-014 : FUEL ASSEMBLIES

March 15, 2006

Eckert Seamans Cherin & Mellott  
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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of January 27, 2006, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 4 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page of 8 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.